

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 31, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Dan Branch, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2504** by Kolkhorst (Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain course information; authorizing a penalty.), **As Introduced**

**Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds** for HB2504, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$528,192) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

**General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2010	(\$286,585)
2011	(\$241,607)
2012	(\$241,607)
2013	(\$241,607)
2014	(\$241,607)

**All Funds, Five-Year Impact:**

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from <i>General Revenue Fund</i> 1	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009
2010	(\$286,585)	4.0
2011	(\$241,607)	4.0
2012	(\$241,607)	4.0
2013	(\$241,607)	4.0
2014	(\$241,607)	4.0

**Fiscal Analysis**

Under provisions of the bill, each institution of higher education would be required to make available to the public on its website a course syllabus, a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, and a course budget report (if available) for each classroom course offered. The information must be accessible from the institution's website by use of not more than three links, searchable by keywords and phrases, and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of user identification. The information must be available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes, and must remain available on the institution's website for at least five years. The governing board of each institution will be required to designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of these provisions.

In addition, the Higher Education Coordinating Board is required to adopt rules under which it may impose a penalty against the responsible administrator of an institution who knowingly violates these provisions.

## **Methodology**

It is assumed that institutions of higher education have already implemented provisions of this bill or could do so within existing resources.

In order for the Higher Education Coordinating Board to implement provisions of the bill, it will need a total of four FTEs, including two FTEs at the Data Analyst IV level to perform random checks, one Administrative Assistant FTE, and 1 FTE Assistant General Counsel. Total cost for fiscal year 2010 would be \$286,585 primarily for salaries and benefits associated with these new FTEs.

## **Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 783 University of Houston System Administration

**LBB Staff:** JOB, KK, RT, SSh